

American Citizen Services Unit U.S. Embassy Santo Domingo Warden Message



TO: Consular Wardens Date: August 1, 2006

FROM: ACS Unit

SUBJECT: Tropical Storm Chris Approaching the Dominican Republic

Following is a Warden's Message being transmitted for your information. Please circulate this to your constituents.

The National Hurricane Center has released a Public Announcement regarding Tropical Storm Chris, which at 2 P.M. Eastern time today was located 110 kilometers East-Northeast of the island of Antigua. As of 2 P.M. today, the storm has top winds of approximately 40 miles per hour and is traveling West-Northwest at 10 miles per hour. Predictions indicate that, on its current path, Tropical Storm Chris is expected to pass north of Puerto Rico Wednesday and pass over the northeastern Dominican Republic by Wednesday evening or Thursday morning. Although current predictions indicate rains will be heaviest in the Puerto Plata and Santiago areas, heavy rains should be expected throughout the Dominican Republic from Wednesday evening through Friday.

The U.S. Embassy is closely monitoring the progress of Tropical Storm Chris. U.S. citizens are urged to take precautions to protect against potential flooding in the event of heavy rains. U.S. citizens should monitor local radio and other media to stay aware of any weather developments in their area. Minor tropical storms can develop into hurricanes very quickly, limiting the time available for a safe evacuation. Travelers should keep in close contact with their tour operator, hotel staff, and local officials for evacuation instructions in the event of a weather emergency.

For updated information about Tropical Storm Chris, please check the National Hurricane Center website at: http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/

Additional information on hurricanes and storm preparedness may be found in the "Hurricane Season-Know Before You Go" pamphlet at: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/hurricane_season/

hurricane_season_2915.html, and in the "Natural Disasters" page
of the Bureau of Consular Affairs' website at:
http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/emergencies/emergencies_1207
.html.

Americans living or traveling in the Dominican Republic are encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy through the State Department's travel registration website, https://travelregistration.state.gov. American citizens who have previously registered with the U.S. Embassy do not need to register again.

Updated information on travel in Santo Domingo may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States, or from overseas, 1-202-501-4444. For further information please consult the Consular Information Sheet for Santo Domingo, which is available via the Internet at http://travel.state.gov.